

# IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

221 Church Street, Ferguson, Missouri 63135

Nov. 19, 2017

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

314-521-7324

info@immanuelucc.org

www.immanuelucc.org

*Those who are able are invited to stand.  
The hymns today are in the Chalice Hymnal (red).*

## Gathering Music

Welcome & Life of the Church & Recognition of Nov. Birthdays - 8:30 a.m.

Prelude "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

\*Bells and Chimes (You are invited to stand)

## \*Call to Worship

One: Sing the new day

All: **O God, we come.**

One: Sing a new song

All: **Awakened, we come.**

One: Sing to the light

All: **So beckoned, we come.**

\*Hymn of Praise

"We Gather Together"

#276

## \*Gathering Prayer

**There is a richness here—a richness that greets and grows and holds and challenges and keeps. There is a richness here—a richness that surrounds and brings and delivers and gives. The richness holds us in our weakness, fills us in our hunger, finds us when we're lost. So here, richly blessed, we have come, and we have been found. Let this time together inspire us in richness and grace. Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

## THANKS TO TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

### Lay Readers this morning:

8:30 a.m.

Leah Richmond

10:00 a.m.

Juli Duncan

### Ushers this morning:

8:30 a.m.

Chris Struble  
Krescene Beck  
Beverly Dow  
Shirley Joellenbeck

10:00 a.m.

Glenn Cordes  
Fran Panagos  
Art Rinderknecht  
John Viehmann  
Keith Wogtech

### Sanctuary Door Greeters this morning:

8:30 a.m.

Marty Schuster

10:00 a.m.

Barbara & Nick Thompson

### Outside Welcomers this morning:

8:30 a.m.

Leah Richmond and  
Angel & Sarah Henson

10:00 a.m.

Laura Payer

### LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

#### Operating Income

Pledge Payments	\$ 6,970.00
Special Donations	25.00
Loose Offerings	0.00
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,995.00</b>

#### Other Receipts

Junque & Jewel proceeds	167.75
Coffee Hour	21.50
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 189.25</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,184.25</b>

~ *Announcements* ~

**INTERFAITH DIALOGUE** is this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. We meet in Room 202 and today's guest speaker will be from the Coptic Church. Please join us!

**DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY** the deadline for the December Newsletter is tomorrow, **Monday, November 20**.

**NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26** following worship, we will meet and decorate the sanctuary for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season. Please plan to stay and help with the decorations. Many hands make for quick finishes.

**LYDIA'S HOUSE** - Our Lydia's House meal has moved from December 20 to **November 29!** To honor budgets, costs of donating are kept under \$10. Want to help out? See Krescene Beck or contact her at 618/806-9431 or [krescenebeck@gmail.com](mailto:krescenebeck@gmail.com).

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2** from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, Pastor Jimmy and Annie will host a Parent's Day Out. Please bring your children to the Fellowship Hall. We will provide a snack, a craft and smiles as you take care of some of that Christmas shopping!

**ADVENT FESTIVAL IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3** in the Fellowship Hall at 11:15 a.m. Join us for lunch and crafts as we kick off the season of Advent!

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** will be on **Sunday, December 3** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Paula & George Hildebrand. You do not need to be a member of the Bon Appetite Group to join us. Everyone in the church is invited. Please bring an appetizer. RSVP to Paula or George at [hildebrandp@yahoo.com](mailto:hildebrandp@yahoo.com) or 314/608-4123 by November 30.

**A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS WILL BE SUNDAY, DECEMBER. 10** at 11:30 in the fellowship hall. We will have cookies and punch following the play. The children have been hard at work and hope you will join us. Bring your family and friends. It is sure to be a great time!

**ADVENTURE SEEKER'S - THURSDAY, December 14** is the annual Christmas party for the Adventure Seeker's at David Hoffman's Home. We will meet at Immanuel at 11:00 a.m. and car pool to David's home. Parking is limited. This is a potluck so bring a dish to share and a \$5.00 gift to share at the exchange. Call Nurse Linda for reservations and to let her know what food you are bringing.

**ALL CHURCH CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** will be at the home of Pastor Jimmy & Annie Watson, 8268 Glen Echo Drive, Belnor, on Sunday, **December 17** from 11:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

**SANCTUARY CHOIR** will present their Christmas Cantata in the form of Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 17 at both worship services..

**Reading of Judges 4:1-7**

**Choir Anthem 10:00 a.m.**

*"All Good Gifts"*

Martin

Sanctuary Choir

**Special Music 10:00 a.m.**

*"You Have Called Us"*

Farrell

Sunday School Singers

**Children's Time & Recognition of Nov. Birthdays 10:00 a.m.** Rev. Courtney Chandler  
*(The children may now go to Sunday School while we sing "Jesus Loves Me".)*

**Reading of 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

**Prayer of Confession**

One: There is a richness here—a gorgeous, flowing richness of unending abundance. But that doesn't mean that it guides us. Our ways—within and beyond our control—speak of something different: of lack, of fear, of something other than an acknowledgement of God's endless and beautiful river of grace.

**All: But how do we step into that river? Do we step into it with trust? Do we trust the current of God's generous gifts?**

One: Or do we run from the river? For when we run, when we turn away from God's gifts in distrust, we lose the refreshment and joy of that richness . . . and something else reigns.

**All: Then, what's left?**

One: Now is the time—now is the time to consider just how we distrust God's abundance. Now is the time—now is the time to begin something new. Now is the time—now is the time to trust . . . differently.

*Silence*

**Assurance of Pardon**

One: Let us pray: We haven't always trusted, God. But now we do.

**All: We acknowledge the richness of your blessings, we see our flowing river of love, and we wade into your grace.**

One: There is a richness—a richness that says "yes"—eternally—even in the face of our behavioral "no's." There is a richness that penetrates distrust and offers so much more. This richness forgives and gives even more.

**All: We know this forgiveness. And we thank you, God.**

**Reading of Matthew 25:14-30**

**Hymn of Preparation**      *“God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”*      #651

**Sermon**      *“The Matthew Effect”*      Dr. Jimmy Watson

**Prayer Concerns**

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer** (using “debts” and “debtors”)

**Prayer Response**      *“Lead Me, Guide Me”*      #583

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory**      *“I Come With Joy”*

**\*Doxology**      *“Praise God from whom all blessing flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below: Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.”*

**\*Dedication of the Offering**

**O God, we have come, and what a delight it has been! We have come before your table with gifts—gifts of ourselves, gifts of risk, gifts of newness, gifts of trust. We thank you for the chance to give, and pray that we and all whom our gifts bless will never be the same. Through our greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Parting**      *“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”*      #614

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**      *“Thank You, Lord”*



***FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR***  
*In Memory of Ray Pohlmann’s birthday*  
*Given by*  
*Marian & family.*

**\*\* CALENDAR \*\***

**IMMANUEL ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

**Today:**      8:30 & 10:00 a.m.    Worship  
11:30 a.m.    Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

**Monday:**    6:30 p.m.      Immanuel Bowling League - Olympic Lanes  
7:00 p.m.      Faith Explorations - Room 202  
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**Tuesday:**    10:00 a.m.     PACE - Room 100  
1:00 p.m.     Staff Meeting - Library

**Wednesday:** 7:00 p.m.     Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service - Zion Lutheran Church

**Thursday:**    HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**Friday:**      OFFICE CLOSED - NO PACE

**Next Sunday:** 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Worship  
8:30 a.m.      Adult SS - Library  
9:30 a.m.      Sunday School Singers - Music Room  
11:15 a.m.     Sanctuary Decorating for Christmas  
11:15 a.m.     Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

**MINISTERS**

*The People of Immanuel Church*  
**MINISTERS TO THE MINISTERS**

**Dr. Jimmy Watson**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Paul Westcott**  
*Minister of Music*

*God is Still Speaking*

**Rev. Courtney Chandler**  
*Minister of Christian Education*

**Linda Stoecklin, R.N.**  
*Faith Community Nurse*

**\* LAST WEEK’S ATTENDANCE \***

<u>Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Adult Sunday School</u>
<b>8:30 a.m.</b> 41	<b>Students</b> 22	<b>5</b>
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> <u>110</u>	<b>Teachers</b> 9	
<b>Total</b> 151	<b>Total</b> 31	